



REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND  
SCIENCE

SECTOR OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT



## WBC-INCO.NET setting of regional research priorities

### Consultation Session on Environment

June 16 and 17, 2009 in Skopje/FYR of Macedonia

Venue:

**Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje,  
(Rector's Building- Round Conference Hall)**

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### AGENDA with annotations

**Tuesday, June 16, 2009**

9:00 - 11:00	<p>Welcome <b>Ms. Snezana Bilik- Sotiroska</b>, Head of Sector of Science and Technological Development, Ministry of Education and Science</p> <p>Tour de Table</p> <p>Introduction to WBC-INCO.NET (Task T2.4) Outlook on expected results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) <u>Regional research priorities</u></li><li>b) <u>Recommendations</u> for further cooperation with WBC and major generic activities</li></ul>
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	<p><b>Ulrike Kunze</b>, International Bureau of the BMBF, Germany  <b>Tanja Knezevic</b>, Ministry of Education and Science of Montenegro, MPIN</p> <p>FP 7 Work Programme on Environment (including Climate change)  <b>Nikoloas Christoforides</b>, European Commission, DG RTD, Environment Directorate</p> <p>First discussion on a) regional research priorities  <b>Moderator: Claire Nauwelaers</b>, UNU MERIT, The Netherlands</p> <p><b>Chair: Andreas Kahle, Federal Ministry of Education and Research</b></p>
11:00 - 11:30	<i>Coffee</i>

In this first session, we would like to set the scene for the Consultation Session giving an introduction in the WBC-INCO.NET and outlining the major issues of the workshop. Especially, we would like to look ahead on the expected results, firstly, on regional research priorities and, secondly, giving recommendations for further cooperation possibilities with the Western Balkan Countries (WBC) and major generic activities. For both topics, an outline will be given as input for the workshop participants.

One of the aims of the workshop is to specify regional research priorities of common interest for the WBC and the EU Member States, which can then be used as input for the FP7 Work Programme of the Theme of Environment. Therefore, an overview of the FP7 Work Programme is given.

In order to achieve the goal of specifying common priorities for all the WBC, input from the participating WBC researchers and other experts is needed to take into account and to incorporate the regional needs, which will be done in the next session.

11:30 - 12:30	<p>Presentation of S&amp;T systems and regional research priorities (Part 1)</p> <p><u>Presenters</u>  Albania (Prof. Arsen Proko, Academy of Sciences, Albania)  Bosnia and Herzegovina (<b>N.N.</b>)  Croatia (<b>Dr. Slaven Dobrovic</b>, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture)</p>
12:30 - 13:40	<i>Lunch at the same venue</i>
13:40 - 15:00	<p>Presentation of S&amp;T systems and regional research priorities (Part 2)</p> <p><u>Presenters</u>  FYRofMacedonia (<b>Dr. Natasa Markovska</b>, Macedonian Academy of Science and Arts- Institute of Energy, Skopje; <b>Dr. Atanas Kocov</b>, Dean, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering – Skopje)  Kosovo (under UN SCR 1244/1999) (<b>Dr. Agim Gashi</b>, Faculty of Mathematical and Natural Sciences, Department of Biology, University of Prishtina)  Montenegro (<b>Prof. Dr. Mira Vukcevic</b>, University of Montenegro, Faculty of Metallurgy and Tehnology, Podgorica)  Serbia (<b>Dr. Jonjaua Ranogajac</b>)</p>

The aim of this session is to present the S&T systems in the WBC regarding the field of Environment and to highlight the major findings of the national country reports assembled prior to the Consultation Session. For each presentation, a maximum of 20 min (including a short discussion) are foreseen.

Ideally, during the presentation each analytical expert will propose a list of 3 to 5 research priorities in the field of Environment. The assembled national country report will be distributed to the other countries prior to the workshop via the nominated expert and the Montenegrin Ministry of Education and Science.

15:00 - 16:30	Discussion / refinement of regional research priorities (in parallel working groups)  <b>Moderator: Claire Nauwelaers</b> , UNU MERIT, The Netherlands
16:30 - 16:50	<i>Coffee</i>
16:50 - 18:00	Report of the working groups Summing up of regional research priorities  <b>Moderator: Claire Nauwelaers</b> , UNU MERIT, The Netherlands
19:00	<i>Dinner</i> <i>Restaurant ANJA, City Park, Jodran H. Dzinot br. 12<sup>a</sup> – Skopje</i>

In these two sessions, we will discuss and identify regional research priorities based on the great lines of the FP7 Work Programme on Environment and the presentations of the S&T systems and the national country reports by the WBC in the previous session. The discussion will take place in parallel groups according to the national delegations or following thematic groups. The participating stakeholders from the WBC will be asked to give input to propose concrete research topics and to finally set up a list of not more than 5 regional research priorities commonly agreed upon by all WBC.

In a second step, a specification of each of the research priorities will be undertaken in order to define more concrete research topics underlining the strength and specificity of the WBC; so each of the national delegations will be asked to provide more refined priority topics under the list of 3 to 5 research priorities.

Back in the plenary session, a matrix will be produced with all research topics of the WBC to finally reach consensus on about 3 to 5 regional research priorities commonly agreed on. Furthermore, the objective is to agree on more specific topics commonly agreed upon as well. These research topics can then be used as input to the FP7 Work Programme, a regional call, actions under a Regional Research Strategy etc.

## Wednesday, June 17, 2009

9:15 - 10:30	<p>Presentations by invited experts</p> <p>a. EULIMNOS - an example for successful international cooperation in the Western Balkans  <b>Prof. Dr. Lothar Erdinger</b>, University of Heidelberg, Germany</p> <p>Chair: <b>Ulrike Kunze</b></p>
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee</i>

While discussions on day one were primarily devoted to regional research priorities, day two will focus on recommendations for further cooperation with the WBC. Prior to the discussion, external experts will highlight different aspects which are connected to the Environment theme. This will include presentations with the objective to view the Environment sector from different perspectives and to introduce further ways and instruments of cooperation to the workshop participants. This session will give the opportunity to raise new issues within the Environment theme and to discuss new ways of cooperation between the participants of the Consultation Session and with other initiatives, networks, etc.

11:00 - 12:30	<p>Input presentation:  Development of the regional strategy for research and development in the Western Balkans – <i>state of play</i>  <b>Tanja Knezevic</b>, Ministry of Education and Science of Montenegro, MPIN</p> <p>Discussion  Recommendations for further cooperation with WBC and major generic activities  <b>Moderator: N.N.</b></p>
12:30	<p>Short conclusions and closing  <b>Violeta Atanasovska</b>, Ministry of Education and Science  <b>Tanja Knezevic</b>, MPIN Montenegro</p>
12:30 - 13:30	<i>Lunch at the same venue</i>
	<i>Departure</i>

This last session of the workshop will be devoted to an open discussion about further cooperation possibilities with the WBC besides FP7. Each WBC delegation will be asked to formulate practical recommendations for major generic activities at regional level and on how the cooperation among the WBC in the area of S&T in the field of Environment can be further developed. Ideally, a list of recommendations given by the participating WBC and the external experts will be compiled which could then be incorporated into a regional research strategy for in the near future.

Possible topics covered could include: A major generic activity regarding exchange and mobility, procedures for the exchange and dissemination of information, networking, infrastructure development, regular, annual meetings between researchers and policy makers in the WBC to discuss issues of a regional research strategy, etc.